1	2	3
9.	Kerala	3,646
10.	Maharashtra	1,000
11.	Andaman & Nicobar	1,593
	Total :	47,016

Spread of Coconut Mite AFFECTD Disease

2915. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given any financial support to the coconut cultivators suffering by the widespread coconut mite;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by various Government Departments to assist the affected farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Coconut Development Board under this Ministry has supported the efforts of State Governments by providing financial assistance of Rs. 171.40 lakhs and Rs. 667.45 lakhs for control of mite under the Scheme-I integrated Farming in Coconut Holding during the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000 respectively. In addition, the Board has released Rs. 0.925 lakhs to the Project Directorate of Biological Control, Bangalore to undertake research on Biological Control of mite.

(c) The Coconut Development Board has played a key role starting from the identification of the problem of coconut mite to sensitizing the issue for research support, creating awareness for its management through publication of literature and coordination of training. Research efforts in State Agriculture Universities as well as Central Plantation Crops Research Institute have been intensified. Coconut Development Board is regularly monitoring research and development work relating to control of mite. A team of scientists appointed by Department has gone into the problem in detail and made suitable recommendations for the control of mite. To intensify further research, a network project for the control of *Eriophyid* mite in coconut has been approved with a total cost of Rs. 1.42 crores. The network project is being implemented by Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod; Kerala Agricultural University, Trichur; University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad; Project Directorate of Biological Control, Bangalore; All

India Coordinated Research Project on Mite, Bangalore and Tamilnadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore as nodal centre.

Expenses of DMS

*2916. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :

DR. D. MASTHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had obtained the information regarding expenses other than administrative expenses, expenses related to distribution of milk and expenses on purchase of milk in the Delhi Milk Scheme before raising the prices of milk;

(b) if so, the amount of expenses thereof, separately, item-wise;

(c) whether Government had identified the potentials to reduce the expenses of the said items; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The Government examined expenses on various elements before raising the sale price of Delhi Milk Scheme milk.

(b) During 1999-2000 the average cost of each element per 100 litres of milk is given below :

(Rs. per 100 litres)

Element of cost	Expenses
Raw material cost	1076.10
Processing cost	127.60
Distribution cost	64.42
Administrative cost	38.96
Other Cost	47.26
Total	1354.34

(c) and (d) : The procurement rate of raw milk is same as that paid by Mother Dairy. Continuous efforts to reduce the expenses are being made by rationalisation of routes/booths and optimum utilization of staff.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.